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CHIEF JUSTICE ANGELLOTTI

The retirement of Chief Justice Angellotti of the Supreme Court of the state after nineteen years of service, twelve as an Associate Justice and seven as Chief Justice, has been the occasion for universal expressions of regret. The elevation of Justice Shaw to the position of Chief Justice is a well-deserved tribute to that brilliant and effective jurist, while the promotion of Judge Waste to the vacancy in the Supreme Court maintains the high character of that tribunal. The fact remains, however, that an able and experienced judge has felt obliged to resign while in the full maturity of his judicial powers. In less than three years three justices of the Supreme Court—Sloss, Olney and Angellotti—have resigned. It is not necessary in a California law review to comment upon the

irreparable loss to the state. The problem is rather how to get men of this type—and there are very few of them—on the supreme bench and to keep them there. One difficulty is the salary. In 1906 it was taken out of the hands of the legislature and put in the Constitution. If \$8000 was a proper salary at that time, and it certainly was not considered excessive, it is clearly inadequate today. The lawyer who will accept a judicial position is not ambitious for money; he is willing to sacrifice the high pecuniary rewards of the profession; the honor, the work and the service to the state of themselves being sufficient compensation. The salary need not and should not be made equal to the income of the most successful practitioners at the bar. It must, however, be sufficient to relieve the judge and his family from financial worry for the present and for the future. The pension assists in keeping judges on the Federal bench. In the State of California a substantial increase is imperatively demanded if men like Sloss, Olney and Angellotti are to be kept in the service of the state. For the loss of these men the people, not the legal profession, are responsible. Perhaps the bench should be recruited from the leaders of the bar who have acquired a competence from the practice of the profession. Under present conditions they are the only lawyers of proved ability who can afford to make the financial sacrifice. In England there seems to be a public opinion that almost compels a successful barrister to accept a judicial position when it is tendered him, and in England there is no such thing as a return to private practice.

CALIFORNIA BAR ASSOCIATION

The twelfth annual meeting of the California Bar Association was held October 20-22, 1921, at Riverside. So much work was done that the Report must be read to get an adequate idea of the proceedings. The deliberations of this body are especially valuable in this, that while there are differences of opinion, the opinions are on the merits of the controversy uninfluenced by political, sectional or other prejudices. The power for good of this Association, now that it has become definitely self-conscious and organized, can hardly be overestimated. We shall await with interest the report of the special committee on statutory incorporation of the bar.

Twenty-one measures submitted by the Bar Association were enacted by the last legislature. Several additional recommendations were made at Riverside, especially in the line of straightening

out kinks in procedure. A committee under the chairmanship of Jeremiah F. Sullivan was appointed to conduct the campaign for the Sample bill, prohibiting the unlawful practice of the law by corporations. The Act was passed by the Legislature, and approved by the Governor, but its operation is suspended by the filing of a referendum petition. One of the most important recommendations to the Legislature is for the appointment of Commissioners on Uniform Laws. California is one of the few states not at present represented officially. These commissioners would assist materially in procuring the enactment in California of beneficial uniform legislation.

Jefferson P. Chandler of Los Angeles was elected president of the Association for the coming year.

ALEXANDER F. MORRISON.

There is no royal road to distinguished position at the bar. It depends on the man. Mental capacity there must be—that goes without saying; knowledge of the law, as it is, and as it has been developed, and a practical sense, to apply it in the affairs of men. All this, and with it a power and a disposition to work, a capacity for taking pains. Alexander F. Morrison had the mind and the attainments; he had an industry that did not tire; and so it was that he mounted to eminence in his profession. More than this, and topping it all, he had character. He was essentially honest-minded. Men of the world soon learned to know him for what he was. They put their faith in him. Their confidence in him was entire. His course is an object lesson to young lawyers, that the way to real distinction in the law, and to its rewards, is not through the windings of craft, but along the open road of frank and fair dealing with everybody. Mr. Morrison's friends, and they were in all walks of life, will think often and never without emotion, of his personal kindliness, his unaffected goodness of heart, his modest self-depreciation, the utter absence in him of any mean envy, his generous and manly readiness to see and acknowledge what was worthy in others. The community in which he spent his days, to the winning of its esteem and affection, feels his loss. But he has not been here in vain. His life will be an inspiration to those who are to come after, and who will be moved by his example to the compassing of the higher and better things.

P. F. Dunne.